

# The Delray Democrat

## The Farmer<sup>1</sup>

*Jack Goldstein*

The world has lost a wonderful person, Barry Silver.

I go back many years with Barry and I sit here and recall the rabbi and the man. I remember him on a trampoline years ago teaching young teens he called the Jew Crew how to use it.

I recall his creativity and love of music and his musical messages. I will always picture him with his bullhorn leading and speaking to crowds demonstrating for such things as clean air, water, the rights of women and the harm of banning books. I recall sitting in a mosque with him at a time when Trump was verbally attacking Muslims and the mosque had been physically damaged. Barry brought together various groups and we learned from one another. We saw we had more in common than differences.

In my last conversation with him, he defined his role. You see, I was always a believer in the separation of church and state while he defined his role as one to talk about human values and the need to protect the planet while advocating for the rights of all living things.

So we say goodbye to a kind of farmer. Not one who grew fruits and vegetables but one who planted the seeds of appropriate values in humanity. He fostered the germination of ideals that will grow after a period of dormancy. His legacy will lead many people in the future in helping our world to become a better place.

Barry, you did a good job as a writer, a speaker, and a role model. In our hearts and minds you will forever live.

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<sup>1</sup> [\*The Delray Democrat\*](#), April 2024, page 5.